



Green Sense: The aesthetics of plants, place, and language (Bridging Disciplines Series)

By John Charles Ryan

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Botanical aesthetics are the visual and embodied modes which inform the perception, understanding, and appreciation of plant life. Green Sense is an interdisciplinary study of human relationships to wild plants and the ‘cultures of flora’ that may characterise a region. The book explores botanical aesthetics through a study of the South-West region of Western Australia; a biodiversity ‘hotspot’ of international standing. Through a diverse range of materials, approaches, and perspectives, this title points to the interplay of values involved in cultures of flora, from visual aesthetics and scientific knowledge, to embodied appreciations and sensory entanglements. The book aims to better understand human relationships to wild plants, and offers an intriguing journey through science; poetry; philosophy; ethnography; Indigenous Australian knowledges; and regional tourism and memory studies. Green Sense will appeal to academic researchers, and all those interested in the hidden aspects of the human relationship with plants.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

John Charles Ryan a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Centre for Research in Entertainment, Arts, Technology, Education and Communications (CREATEC) and the School of Communications and Arts at Edith Cowan University in Mount Lawley, Western Australia. Prior to his appointment, he completed a research doctorate in Communications with a focus on ecocultural studies of Australian biodiversity and creative responses to place. In 2003, he was awarded a Master of Arts degree in Values and the Environment (MAVE) at the University of Lancaster, UK. With the artist Ellen Hickman, he is co-author of a volume of botanical illustration and poetry to be published in 2012. He is also a contributor to a forthcoming collection Fremantle Poets 3: Performance Poets. His ecocultural research has appeared in Continuum; Australian Humanities Review; Australian Garden History; Nature and Culture; New Scholar; and Transformations.

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